



**File Code:** 2720  
**Date:** March 13, 2015

Mountain Valley Pipeline, LLC  
Attn: John Centofanti, EQT Gathering, LLC  
625 Liberty Avenue, Suite 1700  
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

Dear Mr. Centofanti:

The George Washington and Jefferson National Forests has completed screening a revised proposal submitted on March 10, 2015 by the Mountain Valley Pipeline, LLC (MVP) to add two survey corridors (Alternatives 110J and 110R) to special use application # BBW433301T. The surveys for Alternative 110J would occur along a 5.3 mile segment and Alternative 110R would occur along a 6.1 mile segment of the Jefferson National Forest located in Craig, Montgomery, and Roanoke Counties, Virginia and Monroe County, West Virginia.

A third alternative in the area was identified by MVP, but that alternative crosses the Brush Mountain East Wilderness. Forest Plan direction does not allow for survey permits in the Wilderness, so that alternative was withdrawn from consideration. The proposal for adding Alternatives 110J and 110R for survey was screened in accordance with the special use screening criteria found at 36 C.F.R. § 251.54(e) and is being accepted as an amendment to formal application # BBW433301T for processing.

It is important to note that while the Forest Plan does not prohibit survey activities from occurring in the areas associated with Alternatives 110J and 110R, the Forest Plan states that areas allocated to Management Prescription Areas 6C-Old Growth with Disturbance and 8C-Black Bear Habitat are unsuitable for the designation of new utility corridors or utility rights-of-way. While the current Forest Plan direction would not allow the construction of the pipeline in these alternative routes, we do have the authority to amend the Forest Plan. Any decision on if, and where, a crossing of the JNF could be allowed changes the impacts on resources on private lands. In the interest of allowing for a more complete analysis of potential impacts of the entire line, we believe it is worthwhile to allow the survey of these additional alternatives on the JNF. With the information we would be better able to assess if a Forest Plan amendment would be appropriate in light of the overall impacts of the pipeline.

The Cost Recovery Agreement has been revised to reflect the additional processing time associated with the revised application. In addition, the comment period to allow people to comment on the additional areas being considered for survey is being extended to April 2, 2015.

Please review, sign, and return the enclosed agreement at your convenience. I will then sign and return a copy for your records. Once executed, the agreement will be sent to our Albuquerque Service Center (ASC) for processing. ASC will submit a Bill for Collection to you for payment of the processing fee. Once the fee is paid, I will endeavor to process the application and make a decision within 60 days on whether or not to issue MVP a temporary, 1 year or less, site survey and



testing permit. If a permit is granted, then MVP will receive a bill for the initial estimated monitoring fee and the land use rental fee.

If you have any questions, please contact Alex Faught, of my staff, at (540) 265-5192 or [afaught@fs.fed.us](mailto:afaught@fs.fed.us).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "H. Thomas Speaks, Jr." with a stylized flourish at the end.

H. THOMAS SPEAKS, JR.  
Forest Supervisor

